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Amendments to the Claims

1. (previously amended) A method comprising:

generating a first signal defining 1) a location in a memory, and 2) a length in the memory of a second signal, the first signal having a cross-platform encoding, wherein the second signal comprises configuration settings for a computing system; and

storing the first signal such that it may be accessed by an application program and wherein the second signal is applied to the computing system upon at least one of power-on and reset.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 in which defining the location in the memory comprises defining an offset in the memory.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 in which defining the location in the memory comprises defining an address in the memory.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 in which the cross-platform encoding comprises: NAME and VALUE fields in an HTML form.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 in which the memory is CMOS and the first signal is stored in RAM.

6. (previously canceled)

7. (original) The method of claim 1 in which the application program executes in cooperation with an operating system.

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8. (previously amended) A method comprising:

generating a first signal defining 1) a location in a memory, and 2) a length in the memory of a second signal representing a system configuration setting for a first computer system, the first signal having a cross-platform encoding; and

transmitting the first signal to a second computer system.

9. (original) The method of claim 8 in which the cross-platform encoding comprises: NAME and VALUE fields in an HTML form.

10. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising:

storing the first signal such that the first signal is accessible by an application program executing in cooperation with an operating system.

11. (previously amended) A method comprising:

receiving on a first computer system a first signal defining 1) a location in a memory, and 2) a length in the memory of a second signal, the second signal defining a system configuration setting for a second computer system, the second computer system comprising the memory, the first signal having a cross-platform encoding; and

the first computer system applying the first signal to read the system configuration setting.

12. (previously amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising:

the first computer system altering a value for the system configuration setting; and

the first computer system transmitting the value to the second computer system.

13. (original) The method of claim 11 in which the cross-platform encoding comprises: NAME and VALUE fields in an HTML form.

14. (previously amended) An article comprising:

a machine-readable memory having stored therein instructions which, when executed by a processor in a computer system, result in:

generating a first signal defining 1) a location in a memory, and 2) a length in the memory of a second signal, the first signal having a cross-platform encoding, wherein the second signal comprises system configuration settings; and

storing the first signal such that it may be accessed by an application program and wherein the second signal is applied to the computing system upon at least one of power-on and reset.

15. (original) The article of claim 14 in which the cross-platform encoding further comprises:

NAME and VALUE fields in an HTML form.

16. (original) The article of claim 14 in which the memory is CMOS and the first signal is stored in RAM.

17. (previously amended) An article comprising:

a machine-readable memory having stored therein instructions which, when executed by a processor, result in:

generating a first signal defining 1) a location in a memory, and 2) a length in the memory of a second signal, the second signal defining a system configuration setting for a first computer system, the first signal having a cross-platform encoding; and

transmitting the first signal to a second computer system.

18. (original) The article of claim 17 in which the cross-platform encoding comprises:

NAME and VALUE fields in an HTML form.

19. (original) The article of claim 17 in which execution of the instructions further results in:

storing the first signal such that it is accessible by an application program executing in cooperation with an operating system.

20. (previously amended) An article comprising:

a machine-readable memory having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by a processor, result in;

a first computer system receiving a first signal defining 1) a location in a memory, and 2) a length in the memory of a second signal, the second signal defining a system configuration setting for a second computer system, the second computer system comprising the memory, the first signal having a cross-platform encoding; and

transmitting a value of the configuration setting to the second computer system.

21. (original) The article of claim 20 in which the cross-platform encoding comprises: NAME and VALUE fields in an HTML form.

22. (previously amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by the processor, result in:

generating a first signal defining 1) a location in a memory, and 2) a length in the memory of a second signal, the first signal having a cross-platform encoding, wherein the second signal comprises system configuration settings; and

storing the first signal such that the first signal may be accessed by an application program and wherein the second signal is applied to the computing system upon at least one of power-on and reset.

23. (original) The system of claim 22 in which the cross-platform encoding comprises: NAME and VALUE fields in an HTML form.

24. (original) The system of claim 22 in which the first memory is CMOS and the first signal is stored in RAM.